

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1448 (Saldana) without my signature.

Governmental actions on behalf of the public need significant public scrutiny to ensure that officials act in the public's best interest. Actions from state entities typically receive significant attention and scrutiny, but actions from smaller lesser-known boards generally do not. This lack of attention can make those boards more susceptible to influence from other interests. A strong anti-corruption law provides protection against such interests.

Section 1090 of the Government Code is extremely important to California and is one of the strongest anti-corruption laws in the nation. Its purpose is critical in order to ensure that public officials perform their duties in an impartial manner, free from bias caused by their own financial interests. This bill would erode the public's protection in Section 1090 by allowing an exception.

For this reason, I am unable to sign this measure.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger